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## BUILDING DEPARTMENT

### PRESS RELEASE

### **PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR PROPERTY: Don't get scammed!!!**

If you have received damages from Hurricane Zeta, you should consider the following:

- Hire only a residential homebuilder, remodeler or a commercial contractor that is licensed with the MS State Board of Contractors (MSBOC) and the City of Diamondhead.
- To verify the license, you can call the MSBOC toll free at 1-800-880-3131 or visit their website at [www.ms boc.us](http://www.ms boc.us). You may also contact the Building Department at 228-222-4626 to verify a City of Diamondhead license.
- Get references from your contractor.
- Get a written contract for work to be performed from your contractor.
- Don't give any type of payment until work is performed.
- Never sign over your insurance claim check to the contractor.
- Have your contractor obtain a proper permit for the work to be performed from the City of Diamondhead and have the required inspections conducted.

On November 3, 2020, the City Council waived all permit fees for damages caused by Hurricane Zeta. Despite having the permit fees waived, the proper permits are required to be obtained. The City Council also authorized the temporary placement of campers on private, residential property for homeowners that need to make repairs to their homes. A permit is required to place a camper on your property.

If you have any questions, please contact the Building Department at 228-222-4626.